

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of June 4 - June 8, 2007**

- 1. TONIGHT - Opening Reception for "Inspired Results" (City-wide):** You are invited to attend tonight's opening reception celebrating "Inspired Results" - a collaborative effort featuring the work of 36 local poets and artists. The reception, which runs from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, will feature a performance by poet Anne Becker and cellist Jodi Becker. Violinist and vocalist Cheryl Hurwitz will perform her original compositions. The reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held in the Atrium Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. The exhibit, curated by Ms. Stephanie Ney, runs through the month of June. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*
- 2. Spring Park Project to Start June 12 (Ward 3):** The creation of a new water feature to better manage the spring water flow at the park will begin with the creation of a stream bed along the Poplar Avenue side of the park next week. The following week the garden areas around the fountain will be reworked to create two wetland plant areas. Lastly, the asphalt path in that area will be reconstructed with permeable pavers. *(Public Works)*
- 3. Jackson Boyd Playground Renovation (Wards 2 & 3):** First meeting was held Thursday, June 7, with neighbors, City staff and design consultant to plan the renovation of the playground. Next meeting to present concept options will take place June 28 at 7:30 at 349 Boyd Avenue. *(Public Works)*
- 4. Old Carroll Stormwater Line Repair (Ward 2):** The existing stormwater line that runs down Old Carroll and crosses Sligo Creek parkway has collapsed in several areas. To restore the line, the City will begin a pipe relining project for the section of the pipe that runs along Old Carroll Avenue on Tuesday, June 12. The remainder of the corrective actions will include replacing the line and patching that runs under Sligo Creek Parkway. That phase of the project will be undertaken later this summer. *(Public Works)*
- 5. CSAFE Activity:** CSAFE facilitated a HEAT Team meeting on Wednesday, June 6. Cpl. Tina Smith attended from the Takoma Park Police Department. CSAFE coordinated its second pilot of the Gang Awareness Workshop for parents and community members on Saturday, June 2 at the Long Branch Library. This training raised participants' awareness about warning signs of gang activity in both their communities and homes. It also provided them with strategies and resources to assist them when faced with any gang-related issues. *(Police)*
- 6. Circuit Trial and Conviction:** After a four-day Circuit Court trial and hours-long jury deliberation, Jose D. Ramos of Silver Spring was found guilty of First Degree Murder relating to the September 1, 2006 beating death of Luis Jovell. Ramos will be sentenced July 30, 2007. Co-defendant, Nelson N. Ventura, also of Silver Spring, is set to stand trial on June 25, 2007. *(Police)*
- 7. The Chief in Meetings:** On June 6, Chief Ricucci attended the monthly retirement board meeting. The Chief also met with members of the Communications Section to discuss ways to improve customer service and advised the communications staff that he is pleased with the improvements he has already seen. On June 7, the Chief, Barb Matthews and Cpl. Smith attended a stakeholders meeting of the Safe Takoma Initiative to discuss implementation and how the Agency can support its mission. *(Police)*

**8. Officers in Training:** On June 5, Sgt Gilbert, A/Sgt Poole, Cpl. Cannatella, Cpl. Wolf, PFC Gaskin, PFC Butler and PFC Mitchell, Pvt Quante and Pvt Smith attended AED/CPR training at Heffner Park. On 06-07, Chief Ricucci, Lt. Cipperly, Mary Kendall, Cpl. Largent, Cpl. Smith, Cpl. Erwin, PFC Gaskin, TAC Gallop and Dsp. Walker attended Defensive Driving School sponsored by Local Government Insurance Trust. *(Police)*

**9. Traffic Enforcement (Wards 2 and 6):** Officers conducted at least 101 traffic stops this week, 92 of which resulted in written citations and 2 impounds. More than half of the stops were made on New Hampshire and Ethan Allen Avenues. *(Police)*

**10. Tenant HelpLine (Citywide):** Do you have questions about your rights as a tenant? Do you know if the rent you are paying is legal under the Rent Stabilization Program? Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant staff would like to come to your neighborhood to answer all of your questions about landlord-tenant rights. If you are interested in having us set up shop on a convenient corner in your neighborhood for a few hours on a weekday evening or weekend day, please contact Linda Walker at (301) 891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**11. Homeowners' and Renters' Tax Credit Program (Citywide):** The deadline for filing for a tax credit is September 1, 2007. The programs are designed to help low income home owners and renters by limiting the amount that they must pay in property taxes. An application must be filed each year with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation with the supporting document. To obtain an application, you may call the State of Maryland at 1(800) 944-7403, access the application directly on their website at <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html> or call Linda Walker at (301) 891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**12. Crossroads Farmers Market (Ward 6):** The Crossroads Farmers Market had a successful opening day this past Wednesday. Vendors sold a variety of locally grown vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers, baked goods, freshly squeezed juices and ethnic foods. The market - located at 7676 New Hampshire Avenue - will be open every Wednesday through November 14 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. The Grand Opening celebration is planned for Wednesday, June 20 with the ribbon cutting scheduled for 6:00pm. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**13. Concert at the Gazebo Sunday 12-3 (City Wide):** The Diversity Concert series is organized by the Old Takoma Business Association/Main Street Takoma with the Institute of Musical Traditions and support from the Takoma Foundation and the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission. See attachment. City TV crews went to the new Crossroads Farmer's Market on Wednesday, June 6, and plan to attend the Grand Opening festivities on June 20 for a future Snapshots segment. *(Housing and Community Development and CityTV)*

**14. The JazzFest on TV:** City TV will be covering the annual Takoma Jazz Fest on Saturday, June 9 at Jequie Park from 11-7. If all goes as planned, we will be using Montgomery County's brand new Mobile Production Vehicle instead of the 25 year old remote van. *(CityTV)*

**15. A Sizzling Summer:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department hosted a free end of the school year "Teen Summer Sizzler" on Friday, June 1 from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm.

Seventy two Takoma Park teens age 13 - 18 years of age participated in an evening of great food, games, prizes and music provided by a DJ. Takoma Park teens are ready to kick - off the summer with new experiences while they "Get Out and Play." *(Recreation)*

**16. The T-Ball Clinic:** Takoma Park's 2nd annual T-Ball Clinic was held on Saturday, June 2, from 9 - 10:30 am, at Hodges Field behind Takoma Park Elementary School. Forty boys and girls in Kindergarten and 1st grade learned the fundamentals of hitting, throwing, fielding and base running. Their coaches, who double as parents, also learned a thing or two about conducting practices that are instructional, fun and safe. *(Recreation)*

**17. The Senior Club:** The Silver Foxes senior club enjoyed a free movie this week at the Montgomery Mall, had lunch, and window shopped. The new bus transported the group. More free movie trips will follow throughout the summer and fall. *(Recreation)*

**18. A Performance of Favorite Things:** On Wednesday, April 6, the Afternoon Addition had an exciting performance by the Afternoon Addition Dancers choreographed by Takoma Park resident, Mama Eltsah. They performed to "Favorite Things." The girls have been working very hard and performed well in front of their parents and peers. *(Recreation)*

**19. How Can It Bees?:** On June 6, the Afternoon Addition welcomed Brady Hartley from Brookside Nature Center, who did a presentation on bees. The kids and staff learned a lot of how they can help bees and realized that bees are good for the environment. *(Recreation)*

**20. Mad Science:** "Things That Go Boom" were explored on June 8, 2007, when Mad Science of Washington visited the Afternoon Addition. In addition to learning about how sound is made and travels, the children got to make super bouncy balls. *(Recreation)*

**21. Farmers Market - Frank "The Banjo Man" Cassel:** The Banjo Man will be moving down the block beginning this Sunday, June 10, performing on Laurel Avenue near the florist shop during the balance of the summer farmers market. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**22. Upcoming Concerts at the Gazebo (City-wide):** The June Diversity Concert Series continues this coming week with two free concerts planned for the Gazebo on Carroll Avenue. On Sunday June 10, Azalea City Recordings will showcase the talents of its recording artists during a three hour concert will run from noon until 3 pm. On Thursday, June 14, enjoy the music of Rita and Naturals from 6-8 pm. The series is organized by the Old Takoma Business Association/Main Street Takoma with the Institute of Musical Traditions and support from the Takoma Foundation and the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission. Additional information can be found at <http://www.takomaonline.com/abouttakoma/documents/diversityflier3.pdf>. *(Housing and Community Development)*